Lee Barry Holroyd – Personal Statement

Program Applying to: *PhD Organisation, Work and Technology*

**Background**

In 2011 my educational journey resumed when I enrolled onto a two-year Foundation degree with a one-year BSc top up. I undertook a degree titled Interactive Design (Game), a Lancaster University accredited degree taught at Blackpool and the Fylde College (B&FC). In 2014 I completed this programme with an upper class second, this allowed me as planned to enrol onto a post-graduate teaching qualification in the September of 2014.

In 2015 I gained my first teaching position in the Computing department at B&FC, the same department in which I studied and did my work placement. In 2017 after taking a two year to focus on curriculum research and smaller qualifications such as Autodesk accreditation and CCNA certification I enrolled onto an MSc Computing programme at Edgehill University. I chose this degree as it offered not only a broad range of technical computing aspects in which I could focus but a more theory based project management aspect.

In the summer of 2018 I completed this programming achieving a merit award, 65% average. In 2018 following this I become the programme leader for Software Engineering and Game Development along with Software Engineering and App Development, both of which are accredited by Lancaster University.

**Research Experiences and Primary Interests**

Throughout the past five years I have instigated my research passion by focusing mainly on technical curriculum aspects such as resource development and academic theory understanding while aiding in the revalidation of the current programme in which I am now leading.

Along with this I am currently looking at programming, teaching theory with a focus on “Basic understanding.” For the latter of which I am currently writing a funded action research project entitled: Practical Programming Pedagogy: Facilitating a better experiential learning approach applying a multimedia flipped paradigm in programming sessions.

My primary interests currently focus on programming pedagogy however, I have a passion for project management and how a classroom/workplace communicates and interacts with each other. I am looking at undertaking another project next year which looks at communication mediums and how they can be best utilised in a teacher student relationship.

I hope with the undertaking of a PHD programme to focus my research on the rapport between tutors and students through technology advancements, along with this look at teaching establishments and how the interactions between employees builds strong learning environments.

The need to learn and drive myself passionately into the areas of research which develop academic environments is something which I can personally relate too, I see the undertaking of a PHD as the most difficult but exciting step in my development, being involved in not only the course but the extra seminars, conferences and building upon every aspect of my professional life along with aiding the faculty wherever possible.